

## CHANGE NOTICE FOR MANUAL

**DATE:** MAY 1, 2017

**MANUAL:** CHILD WELFARE SERVICES MANUAL - CHAPTER 1201 – CHILD PLACEMENT SERVICES, SECTION XIII. EDUCATIONAL STABILITY

**CHANGE NO:** CWS-CN-04-2017

**TO:** COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES/HUMAN SERVICES

**ATTENTION:** CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM MANAGERS & SUPERVISORS  
CHILD WELFARE SOCIAL WORKERS

**RE:** UPDATES TO CHAPTER 1201 - CHILD PLACEMENT SERVICES; SECTIONS I., II., IV., V., X., ADDITION OF SECTION. XIII

**EFFECTIVE:** Immediately

### I. BACKGROUND | CHANGE INTENT

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) provides protections for children in foster care by requiring public educational agencies to collaborate with child welfare agencies to ensure educational stability for children in foster care. As with placement stability, education stability is a critical service delivery dimension and ESSA requires that children in foster care experience minimal educational disruption resulting from a foster care placement or placement change. The attached policy developed by the Division of Social Services instructs county staff regarding implementation and financial claiming procedures. Revisions made to current policy in Chapter 1201, Sections I., II., IV., V., and X. are in red underlined font.

### II. SPECIFIC CHANGES

The changes to Chapter 1201 – Child Placement Services include:

Section I. Overview of Child Placement Services, E. – Addition of language that child placement services include but are not limited to:

Collaborating with educational agencies to ensure school stability for the child and that all factors relating to the child's best interest are considered in determining the child's educational setting, that all appropriate educational services are provided to the child, and that educational planning is in the case file.

Section II. Out of Home Family Services Agreement, A. 10. – Addition of language that the Best Interest Determination form (DSS-5137) or the Child Education Status form shall be completed for all children grades K-12 within seven days of a child's initial placement and subsequent placements, and updated at least every 6 months or when circumstances change, and is designed to coincide with updates of the Out of Home Family Services Agreement.

Section IV. Placement Decision Making, E. Special Legal Considerations in Placement Decision Making – Addition of 3. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Section V. Out of Home Placement Services, C. The First Two Weeks of Placement – Modification to 5. Educational Needs and the Child Education Status to include educational stability and use of Best Interest Determination form.

Section X. Record Keeping and Documentation, B. – Modification to 8. Educational Information.

Addition of Section XIII. Educational Stability. New educational stability policy instructs county staff regarding implementation and financial claiming procedures.

III. INSTRUCTIONS

1201 – Child Placement Services

<https://www2.ncdhhs.gov/info/olm/manuals/dss/csm-10/man/>

<b>OBSOLETE</b>	<b>USE</b>
Chapter 1201– Children Placement Services, Sections: I. Overview of Child Placement Services (Sept. 2015), II. The Out of Home Family Services Agreement (Dec. 2016), IV. Placement Decision Making (Dec. 2016), V. Out of Home Placement Services (Sept. 2015), and X. Record Keeping and Documentation (Dec. 2016)	Chapter 1201 – Children Placement Services, Sections: I. Overview of Child Placement Services, II. The Out of Home Family Services Agreement, IV. Placement Decision Making, V. Out of Home Placement Services, X. Record Keeping and Documentation, Addition of: XIII. Educational Stability

Sincerely,



Kevin Kelley, Section Chief  
Child Welfare Services